CITY OF RIPON.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1905.

RIPON.

HILL, PRINTER AND STATIONER, 26, MARKET PLACE.

1906.

CITY OF RIPON.

REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health

For the year ending December 31st, 1905.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Eighth Annual Report of the Vital Statistics and Sanitary Condition of the City of Ripon for the year ending 31st December, 1905.

I have received and filled up the usual returns from the Local Government Board and West Riding County Council, copies of which are annexed hereto.

I have shewn in these Returns the Deaths in Public Institutions apart from the rest of the City, and also the number of deaths occurring in the City of persons not belonging thereto. A summary of these returns gives the following particulars.

Births.

During the year 1905 the number of Births registered was 189 as compared with 172 in the year 1904, of which 107 were males and 82 females, giving a Birth-rate of 21·9 per 1000. The Birth-rate for 1904 was 19·1 per 1000, so that the above rate shows a slight improvement upon the preceding year. The Birth-rate for the West Riding in 1904 was 27·7 per 1000. Of the above Births 15 were illegitimate, as compared with 10 in 1904, and 9 in 1903.

Deaths.

The total number of Deaths registered in the City in 1905 was 139, as compared with 126 in 1904, and 145 in 1903. Of these 8 were persons non-resident in the City. There were 10 deaths in the Union Workhouse, 6 in in the Cottage Hospital, and 1 in the Fever Hospital, of these 6 were non-residents. One death occurred in the Lancaster Asylum, 2 in the West Riding Asylum, and 1 in the Leeds Infirmary of persons belonging to this City.

The above figures give a death-rate for the whole City of 15·5 per 1000, or exclusive of Public Institutions, 13·9 per 1000. The death-rate for the whole City in 1904 was 14·8 per 1000, and in 1903 16·1 per 1000, and for the West Riding (exclusive of the County Boroughs of Leeds, Bradford, Halifax and Huddersfield), for the year 1904 was 16·5 per 1000.

The death-rate for the past year is a slight increase on that of the preceding year, but it is by no means high, being below the average of the past ten years, and is on the whole a satisfactory record.

Infantile Mortality.

During the year 1905 there were 34 deaths registered of Infants under one year of age, giving a rate of 179 per 1000 of the Birth Rate. In the preceding year the rate was 122 per 1000. The Rate of Infantile Mortality in the West Riding in 1904 was 147 per 1000.

The above figures show a considerable increase in the rate of Infantile Mortality, and is not such a satisfactory record as that of previous years. There is one thing, however, that must be taken into consideration, and that is that of the deaths under one year of age no less than ten are registered as being due to premature birth, an unusually large number. If these were deducted the rate af Infantile Mortality will be found to be 126 per 1000, which is by nomeans a high figure.

Mortality at Groups of Ages.

Under 1 year	34
1 — 5	9
5 — 15	3
15 — 25	5
25 — 65	40
65 and upwards	48
Total	139

Zymotic Diseases.

There were 8 deaths from Zymotic Disease in 1905, viz.: 1 from Scarlet Fever (of a non-resident), 1 from Influenza, 2 from Diarrhœa, and 4 from Enteritis. This gives a Zymotic death rate of 0·9 per 1000, which is precisely the same as it was in 1904. The Zymotic death rate of the West Riding in 1904 was 2·2. The above rate is a very low one and is a very satisfactory record.

Other Diseases.

During the past year there have been 6 Deaths from Phthisis, 6 from other forms of Tubercular Disease, 22 from Bronchitis, 8 from Pneumonia, 12 from Heart Disease, 10 from Premature Birth, 9 from Apoplexy, 12 from Senile Decay, 3 from Accidents, 3 from Malignant Disease, and the rest from various causes.

Infectious Diseases.

There were 16 cases of Infectious Disease reported to me during the past year, viz.: 2 of Diphtheria, 4 of Scarlet Fever, 2 of Enteric Fever, and 8 of Erysipelas.

The 4 cases of Scarlet Fever occurred at different periods of the year and were evidently imported. They were removed to the Fever Hospital and the Disease did not spread. In the cases of Enteric Fever I discovered serious Sanitary defects on the premises and these were promptly remedied. The two cases of Diphtheria were of a very mild type, and indeed without a Bacteriological Examination at the County Laboratory it would have been almost impossible to make a definite diagnosis. This affords another proof, if one were needed, of the great value of the County Laboratory to the Sanitary Authorities in the West Riding.

In connection with this portion of my Report I may mention that 18 specimens were sent to the Laboratory at Wakefield during 1905 for examination, viz.; 17 for Diphtheria, and 1 for Sputum Examination for Tuberculosis. The number of cases admitted into the Fever Hospital from the City in 1905 was 5, viz.: 4 of Scarlet Fever and 1 of Diphtheria.

Sanitary Work, 1905.

Total number of visits paid by the Sanitary Inspector	448
Total number of nuisances	55
Complaints received	48
Notices served	27
Verbal notices given	16
Nuisances remedied	83

NATURE OF NUISANCES.

Sinks disconnected	4
Defective drains reconstructed and relaid	24
Ashpits reconstructed	0
Ashpits repaired	3
Privies converted into w.c's.	14
Nuisances from animals	4
Defective w.c's. repaired	5
Defective or untrapped Gullies	8
Dirty houses	2
Overcrowding	2
Drains choked and cleared	24
Smoke of chimney	1
Total	91

In addition the drains have been tested with the smoke test at 63 houses, 55 proving defective, and have been relaid wholly or in part where required.

Night Soil Scavenging.

The work of this department has now been in the hands of the Sanitary Committee for over three years, and is at present as satisfactory as can be expected.

If a refuse destructor were erected much better results could be obtained.

The number of loads led from the ashpits and dust bins during the year has been 2597.

Sewage Farms.

Plans have been prepared for two efficient sedimentation Tanks on modern lines, which ought to be constructed as soon as possible, as the beds are again shewing signs of becoming silted up and choked with the fatty matter and grease from the sewage. This is all that is necessary to bring the farm into good condition.

Various Sanitary Improvements.

The following are a few of the sanitary improvements carried out during the past year, 1905.

1. No. 6, Skellbank. Iron pipes. New drains.
2. No. 2, Crescent. New drain. Iron pipes.

3. Colonel Eden's. New drains.
4. Skell Yard. New drains.
5. Unicorn. Iron pipes. New drains.
6. Roman Catholic Schools. New drain.
7. Trinity Schools. New drain.
8. Wesleyan Schools. New drain and urinal.

Deposited Plans.

The following plans were deposited and approved by the Building Committee.

1. New w.c's. No. 6, Wilfrid's Terrace, Mrs. Stephenson.
2. New Bedroom, &c. No. 4, Princess Road, Mrs. Garforth.
3. Covered yard to front Shop, Arcade, Queen Street, S. G. Moss.
4. Steps from Brewster Terrace to Killiecrankie, Mr. G. Brewster.
5. New Villa. Mallory Park Drive, Mr. T. Bruce.
6. Alteration to Brewers Arms. Bondgate Green, Messrs. Hepworth & Co.
7. Bringing Shop Front out to building line. Queen Street, Miss Pearson.
8. Additions to new premises. Queen Street, Mr. J. Rayner.
9. New Kitchen and Bathroom to Fall Croft. Zion Chapel.
10. New Kitchen to No. 13, Holyoake Terrace, Councillor McLoughlin.
11. Lavatory and w.c. at New premises, Park Street, Co-operative Society, Ripon.
12. Stables and Coach Houses. Brewster Terrace, Mr. G. Brewster.
13. New Cottage, Coach House and Stables at Whitcliffe Lodge, South Crescent, Rev. J. J. Brown.
14. Motor Garage and Large Room. Victoria Cafe, Market Place, Victoria Cafe Co.
15. New Bedroom, Bathroom, w.c., 12 and 13, Ure Bank, Mr. Parker Alne.
16. Scullery, w.c., &c., and Bedroom at house in York Yard, Skellgate, Mr. I. Tomlinson.
17. Cloak Room, Lavatory and w.c. at Grand Stand, Ripon Race Committee.
18. New Workshop in Bondgate Back Lane, Messrs. Mitchell and Webster.
19. Alterations to Shop. No. 15, Market Place, Mr. J. E. Parker.

Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.

The Factories in Ripon are few in number, and in all of them the requirements of the Act are complied with. In the various Workshops of the City the number of hands employed in each is not as a rule large, and in all of them the demands of the Act with regard to air space, ventilation, and sanitary conveniences are adhered to.

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
LIBRARY

I have visited and inspected the Common Lodging Houses from time to time, and have also visited the Slaughter Houses, Cowsheds and Dairies within the City. In one Slaughter House I found some Sanitary defects which I had remedied. Many of the Slaughter Houses are old and too near dwelling houses, and I must again repeat my opinion that a Public Slaughter House would be a great boon to the City.

I have from time to time in company with the Sanitary Inspector visited the Cottage property in the City and have caused any Sanitary defects which have been discovered to be made good. There is a vast improvement in the dwellings of the working classes compared to what it was a few years back, and during the past year a number of Sanitary dust bins and w.c's. have been introduced in place of the Insanitary ashpits and privies of former years. Very few cases of dirt and overcrowding have come under my notice in 1905.

I have attended the Meetings of the Sanitary Committee, and have, when required, given advice on matters affecting the Public Health.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant.

G. R. GREEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Sanitary Committee.

CITY OF RIPON.

Population (1901)	Males	3708	
	Females	4522	
			8230
Inhabited Houses (1901)			1854
Uninhabited ,, ,,	98 used as Warehouses, 165 uninhabited		263
Houses Building ,, ...			11
Area in Statute Acres			1792
Persons to an Acre			4·6
Total deaths for 1905			139
Deaths from Zymotic Diseases			8
Total Death-rate per 1000			15·4
Births: 107 Males, 82 Females			189

Year.	Births.	Deaths in Public Institutions.	Total Deaths.	Death-rate exclusive of Public Institutions.	Total Death-rate.	Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.	Deaths under one year.	Deaths over sixty-five years.
1878	223	25	170	21·3	24·9	31	36	58
1879	242	20	180	23·5	26·4	12	38	60
1880	222	18	163	21·3	23·9	12	39	55
1881	219	13	131	16·1	17·9	9	23	52
1882	229	18	137	16·1	18·3	6	27	54
1883	217	26	136	14·6	18·1	6	23	51
1884	243	18	147	17·1	19·4	4	35	55
1885	200	14	118	13·7	15·5	9	11	55
1886	227	12	157	19·1	20·7	21	29	66
1887	229	16	166	19·6	21·7	8	37	62
1888	223	16	145	16·8	18·9	21	38	39
1889	232	20	143	16	18·7	9	22	57
1890	207	18	129	15·3	17·1	10	25	52
1891	178	16	154	18·5	20·5	4	26	66
1892	189	26	176	19·5	23	6	22	81
1893	184	14	166	20	22·1	26	25	57
1894	186	13	140	17	18·5	6	31	50
1895	208	8	122	15	16·1	8	25	43
1896	196	16	132	15·2	17·4	17	25	60
1897	187	14	117	13·5	15·3	3	14	60
1898	192	16	148	17·2	19·3	11	26	68
1899	194	16	135	14	14·4	12	34	44
1900	177	18	146	14·2	15·1	9	20	64
1901	204	16	143	16·5	17·3	9	21	50
1902	164	14	124	13·09	14·5	5	22	42
1903	198	27	145	13·8	16·1	5	18	45
1904	172	24	126	12·3	14·8	8	21	38
1905	189	17	139	13·9	15·4	8	34	48